

Montreal Markets.

Flour—Straight rollers have been offered at \$2.95 to \$3.05 delivered here on track, as to brand; but no large transactions are reported. Regarding strong bakers, it is said that country dealers are selling choice brands at \$1.75 per bag, or equal to \$3.50 per barrel, which is the quoted rate delivered here. There is very little dough on Newfoundland account, although there is about 20,000 bbls in store here awaiting the arrival of the first boats. A few car loads of bag flour (straight roller) were sold at \$1.50. There is some export enquiry, and sales have been made of spring patents for Liverpool and Glasgow account. Prices here are quoted as follows:—Patent, spring, \$3.00 to \$3.05; Ontario patent, \$3.30 to 3.50; Straight roller, \$3.00 to 3.20; extra, \$2.70 to 2.90; superfine, \$2.45 to 2.65; fine, \$2.15 to 2.30; city strong bakers, \$3.40 to 3.55; Manitoba bakers, \$3.25 to 3.55; Ontario bags—extra, \$1.35 to 1.40; straight rollers, \$1.50 to 1.55; superfine, \$1.15 to 1.30; fine, \$1 to 1.10.

Oatmeal—Car lots of rolled oats are quoted at \$4.10 per bbl on track. In a jobbing way, however, prices are quoted as follows:—Rolled and granulated \$4.20 to \$4.35; standard, \$3.95 to \$4.15. In bags, granulated and rolled are quoted at \$2.10 to 2.15, and standard at \$1.95 to \$2.

Bran, etc.—The scarcity of bran before mentioned is as noticeable as ever, and car lots are firm at \$18. Western millers offer at \$17.75 on track here. Shorts are steady at \$18 to 19, and moullie at \$21 50 to 22.50.

Wheat—In the west millers are taking a few lots at the mills at 55 to 57c for white and red winter. Manitoba No 1 hard is quoted at 76 to 77c and No. 2 at 74 to 75c.

Oats—Sales were made a few days ago at 40½c, but since then sales have been made at 40c and 39½c for No 2 in store. Ten cars of No 2 were offered yesterday at 40c per 34 lbs and not taken.

Barley—Best malting grades cannot be bought under 52c. Feed barley is steady at 43c.

Cured Meats—In Lard there have been further sales of compound in car lots at \$1.45 to 1.50 per pail, with smaller lots selling at \$1.60. Bakerino seems to be taking the place of lard, sales of which are reported in 20 lb pails at \$1.80 to 1.90 as to quantity. Smoked meats are easier and lower; sales of fair sized lots of large hams being reported at 9½ to 9¾c, small jobbing lots being quoted at 10c. Small hams have sold at 10½ to 11c as to quantity. Breakfast bacon is now higher than hams, sales of which have been made at 11 to 12c, as to size of lot.

Dressed hogs—Since our last report the market is stronger, and sales of car lots of medium hogs are reported at about \$6.25, with more money paid for light butchers' averages. The season, however, is pretty well over.

Butter—For real choice creamery and dairy there is a firm market, with the supply scarcely equal to the demand. But as soon as less desirable grades are reached, which form the bulk of the supply, there is an entirely different state of things. Prices as follows:—Creamery, early made, 21 to 22; creamery, late made, 25 to 26c; easter townships dairy, 21 to 23c; western, 19 to 20c per lb. Add 1c to above for single packages of selected.

Cheese—A few sales of finest have taken place over the cable at equal to 11½c here. Advices from the West state that a few new fodder cheese have been turned out, and sold to the local trade; but there will be no quantities of any account to offer for some time yet.

Eggs—New laid stock has sold at a slight advance, at 17 to 19c. In held stock the market is as demoralized as ever, sales having taken place at all kinds of prices from 5c up to 11c, while Montreal lined have sold at 9 to 11c, and Western at 8 to 9c.

Apples—A car load from the west was sold this week at auction, but the condition of them

was very poor; prices ranged from \$2.70 to \$4 per barrel. Stocks are slowly diminishing and prices range from \$4.50 to \$5.50 per barrel.

Hides—The hide market is very quiet, as butchers do not care to accept the recent decline to 3c for No 1. Heavy steers are low in price, but not many appear to be wanted. Lambskins have brought 10 to 15c each. Sheepskins are slow sale, and the few calfskins arriving being 5c per lb. Heavy steers, 3 to 4c. Calfskins, 6c; sheepskins, 75 to 80c; lambskins, 10 to 15c.—Trade Bulletin, March 9.

Export Cattle Trade.

Recently a deputation of cattle exporters waited on the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa with the object of finding out the position of affairs with regard to the schedule on Canadian cattle in Great Britain. Minister Angers stated that some six weeks ago he had prepared and sent to the British government a full report of the situation in regard to cattle in which he proved clearly that our cattle were entirely free from disease, and showing that such strict regulations were in force as to preclude the possibilities of the disease being brought into Canada from the United States. He has not yet received a reply to that communication, but he promised to cable at once asking for a definite answer and would communicate the result to the trade as soon as it was received. The deputation pressed on the minister the desirability of abolishing the inspection fees that are now charged on cattle and also the fees for signing men charged on articles, claiming that such fees are not imposed on cattle from the United States ports. They urged the importance of being placed on an equal footing with the United States shippers.

The deputation later waited on the railway officials at Montreal and pointed out that Canadian shippers were paying over double the rate, considering the distance, than United States shippers were and now that Canadian and United States cattle were on the same footing in British markets the Canadian shippers were placed at a great disadvantage. The officials, it is reported, fully realized the disadvantage Canadian shippers were under in this respect and the necessity of meeting their views regarding the reduction of rates, and promised to submit the matter for the consideration of their respective boards and give an answer in a short time.

The Stock Markets.

At the Montreal stock yards the receipts of live stock for the week ending March 10 were 757 cattle, 320 sheep, 515 hogs, 175 calves. On hand 35. The receipts of cattle this week were somewhat in excess of demand, consequently trade toned downward and lower prices had to be accepted in order to effect a clearance. Live hogs, of which there was a good supply, found ready buyers at firm prices. Sheep and lambs of good quality were in fair demand. Good calves sell well. Following prices are quoted as being fair values:—Cattle, butchers', good, 3½ to 4c; cattle, butchers', medium, 3 to 3½c; cattle, butchers', culls, 2½ to 3c; lambs, 4 to 4½c; hogs, \$5.10 to \$5.20; calves, \$2 to \$3.

British Grain Trade.

The cable review of the British grain trade for the week ended March 10, says: Weather is favorable. The crops look well. Good progress is being made in farm work. The wheat market is steady. Holders and shippers show less disposition to deal at the present low prices. Buyers are reserved and purchase only to meet their pressing needs. The stocks in the United Kingdom steadily diminish. This checks the effect of the prospect of large supplies. Red wheats are slow. Indian wheat is neglected. Californian float is quoted at 25s 3d per quarter. Hard winter, March delivery, and northern spring afloat, is quoted at 23s.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

At a meeting of lake and railway men in Montreal on Saturday the freight and passenger rates for the coming season upon the boats and railways between Montreal and Port Arthur were fixed for the season. The following schedule was agreed for freight: Winnipeg at \$1.43 for first class. Other rates, are made as follows: From Montreal to Winnipeg, \$1.43, \$1.23, \$1.03, 87c, 72c, 70c, 55c, 55c, 47c; from Lake Superior ports, 60c, 53c, 45c, 38c, 30c, 30c, 24c, 24c, 24c; from Lake Ontario stations, 50c, 44c, 33c, 31c, 25c, 25c, 20c, 20c, 20c.

The Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin of March 10 says:—"The railroad situation was demoralized. The eastbound roads were able to secure a better business but it is said rates were cut 5 to 7½ from the tariff, which is 20c on grain and flour and 30c per 100 lbs on provisions to New York. Through business to Liverpool was light at 16½c per bushel on wheat, and 16c on corn. Four 27.84 to 29.84 per 100, lbs and provisions, 42 to 46 88c per 100 lbs. The demand for vessel room was small, but the offerings light, and rates remain easy at 2½ to 3c per bushel for wheat and 2½c asked for corn to Buffalo.

Artesian Irrigation.

The artesian well and irrigation convention in session at Huron, South Dakota, brought together representative men from various parts of the state. Permanent organization was effected by making Hon. R. B. Hassell, of Redfield, chairman and Asher F. Pay, of Huron, secretary. Hon. H. S. Mouser discussed at length the Melville and other state laws touching artesian irrigation, and recommended certain state and national legislation. A sentiment prevailed favoring laws permitting sinking of artesian wells on school lands, thereby filling low places, limpid streams and lake beds with water. Congressman Pickler telegraphed assurance that he would use his efforts to secure such action by Congress as the convention might recommend. An artesian belt association will be formed before adjournment.

The Canadian Magazine for March.

The Canadian Magazine for March is throughout entertaining, and it contains several striking articles equal in interest to any in current magazine literature. The magazine begins its second year with the current number. Among the contributions in the current number is an article by Arthur Harvey on "A Physical Catastrophe to America." The writer ingeniously brings the cataclysmic theory to his aid in picturing a change beginning in 1894, which culminates in the raising of the Atlantic seaboard, the destruction of Chicago and the permanent submergence of the Mississippi, Red and Nelson valleys in ocean waters. The industrial, social and political changes consequent on the cataclysm are not less interestingly described than the physical convulsions preceding them. Dr. John Ferguson contributes a strong and interesting article in favor of the abolition of the "Death Penalty." Among the illustrated articles is Mrs. E. Molson Spragge's "The Garden of British Columbia." Dr. Bryce's exceedingly entertaining and well written article on "Mexico and its People," and Faith Fenton's charming description of "The Winter Carnival at Quebec." Amongst other contributions are "Vancouver and Hawaii," by Rev. H. E. Gowan; "Canadian Art Schools," by J. A. Radford; "Brummagem Jewellery," by Bernard McEvoy; "The Canadian Premier and the United States President," by John A. Cooper; "Lenten and Easter Observances," by Thomas E. Champion; "Milestone Moods and Memories," by David Boyle, and two stories. The Canadian Magazine is published by the Ontario Publishing Co., Ltd., Toronto, for \$2.50 per annum.